EXHIBIT B

THOMAS W. BEVAN, ESO. - 05/15/2018

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1
               IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
                 FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
 3
       KIMBERLEE WILLIAMS,
                                 )
 4
       et al.,
                                 )
 5
               PLAINTIFFS,
 6
             vs.
                                       CIVIL ACTION
 7
                                      NO. 11-CV-01754
 8
       BASF CATALYSTS LLC,
       et al.,
 9
               DEFENDANTS.
10
11
       THE VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF THOMAS W. BEVAN, ESQ.
12
                       TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018
13
14
            The videotaped deposition of THOMAS W. BEVAN,
15
       ESQ., called by the Defendants for examination
       pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure,
16
17
       taken before me, the undersigned, Sarah R. Drown,
18
       Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public
19
       within and for the State of Ohio, taken at the
       offices of Thompson Hine LLP, 3900 Key Center, 127
20
21
       Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio, commencing at 9:03
22
       a.m., the day and date above set forth.
23
24
25
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THOMAS W. BEVAN, ESQ. - 05/15/2018 Pages 82..85

		THOMAS W. BEVAN,	ESQ.		
1		Page 82 identified, did you talk to anybody from Cohen,	1		Page 84
2		Placitella & Roth regarding today's deposition?	2	0	The quote "This has really opened a Pandora's
3	А	No.	3	~	Box," is that an accurate quote?
4	0	Did you have any communications with Cohen,	4	Α	I think it is.
5	~	Placitella & Roth regarding today's deposition?	5	Q	You said that to the reporter?
6	A	No. I said hi to them this morning.	6	~ A	I assume I said it. I don't recall saying it,
7	Q	Did you bring any documents with you today?	7		but I would agree with that statement.
8	a A	Nothing related to this case.	8	0	And did you tell him you were involved in the
9	Q	Going back to 236. Or I'm sorry, 237, the	9	~	federal case?
10	~	Bloomberg article.	10	А	I don't recall. I know I I know I told them
11	A	Yes.	11		I was representing Mrs. Holley, who's the
12	0	Did you tell the reporter that you were	12		executrix of the Darnell estate.
13	~	involved in the Williams case?	13	Q	How are you involved in the federal case?
14	А	I don't recall.	14	a A	Well, I still represent thousands of people
15	0	Okay. Or did you tell them you were involved	15		that potentially are class members. I'm not
16	~	in a federal court case involving six people in	16		handling the federal case in any way. I'm not
17		New Jersey that may or may not be Williams?	17		counsel of record, but I am still the attorneys
18		MR. ROTH: Objection.	18		for these for Mrs. Williams, for Marilyn
19	A	I don't recall.	19		Holley, for the Ware family. I'm the attorney
20	0	All right. So could you just turn to the	20		for the Clark family.
21	_	second page of the Bloomberg printout.	21	0	But independent of your relationships with
22		It says, "'This has really opened a	22	-	Holley, Ware, and the other plaintiffs, you
23		Pandora's Box,' said Tom Bevan, a lawyer in	23		have a fee agreement with Cohen, Placitella &
24		Boston Heights, Ohio, who represented hundreds	24		Roth, correct?
25		of people who sued Engelhard in the 1990s and	25		MR. ROTH: Objection.
		2 02			D 05
1		Page 83 is involved in a current federal case against	1	А	Page 85 Say that again. Independent of?
2		BASF."	2	0	Independent of your relationships with the
3		Do you see that?	3	-	named plaintiffs, you have a separate
4	А	Yes.	4		relationship with Cohen, Placitella & Roth
5	Q	Do you have any idea of what withdrawn.	5		MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
6		When you read the article, did you have	6	Q	correct?
7		any understanding of what the "current federal	7	A	I have relationships, yes.
8		case against BASF" referred to?	8	Q	You have a fee arrangement with Cohen,
9	A	I assume it's this class action but	9		Placitella & Roth, correct?
10	Q	Williams?	10		MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
11	A	Yeah.	11		MR. ROTH: Objection.
12	Q	Okay. And when you read that, you knew it had	12	A	Yes.
13		to do with Williams, correct?	13	Q	Has that been disclosed to your individual
14	A	You know, I don't know that I really gave it	14		clients?
15		much thought.	15		MR. ROTH: Objection.
16	Q	Are you involved in any other federal case	16		MR. McDERMOTT: Same objection.
17		against BASF?	17		MR. ROTH: Privilege.
18	Α	I'm involved in the Ross case, and I don't	18		MR. McDERMOTT: Continuing
19		recall I know it's filed in New Jersey.	19		objection about these questions.
20		Whether that's a state court or federal court,	20	A	I'm I'm fairly certain that, for instance,
21		I'm not sure.	21		on the Ross case, I assume that the client
22	Q	Was the Ross case even filed at this time?	22		signed a fee agreement with both our firm on
23	Α	I don't know when the Ross case was filed.	23		there and the Placitella firm.
24		That was probably filed in I don't know.	24	Q	Regarding the Williams case, have you disclosed
25		I'm not sure when the Ross case was '16 or	25		your arrangements with Cohen, Placitella & Roth

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,		THOMAS W. BEVAN,			
1		you did with the named plaintiffs? Fair?	1		Page 116 didn't discuss with your clients, correct?
2		MR. ROTH: Objection to	2		MR. ROTH: Objection.
3		form.	3	Α	I don't know.
4	A	Certainly from Mr. Placitella's end. You know,	4	Q	You never discussed anything with Ms. Williams?
5		he knew more than, you know, my clients knew.	5	æ A	Me personally?
6	Q	You provided Mr. Placitella with more facts	6	Q	Correct. Correct.
7	×	than you provided to your clients, fair?	7	æ	No.
8		MR. ROTH: Objection.	8	0	And she's the named plaintiff in this case,
9	A	I think so.	9	×	correct?
10	0	Well, since you never spoke to Ms. Wengerd or	10	A	I think she's the lead plaintiff.
11	~	Ms. Williams regarding the facts, by definition	11		MR. ROTH: Objection.
12		you had to provide Mr. Placitella with more	12	Q	So if there are any facts in those emails,
13		facts, fair?	13	~	Mr. Placitella would have greater access to
14		MR. ROTH: Objection.	14		those facts than Ms. Williams, true?
15	А	Me personally, yeah, sure.	15	A	I can't answer that. I don't I don't know.
16	0	And in providing these facts, some of the facts	16	0	Did you provide Mr. Placitella with facts
17	~	were in emails, correct?	17	~	regarding the underlying Engelhard cases?
18	A	I think. I'm not positive, but I think.	18	A	Again, I'm not sure what I put in the email.
19	0	Have you reviewed these emails?	19	Q	Well, you said previously you did put facts in
20	a A	I no. I got a stack of emails, but I have	20	~	the
21		not reviewed them.	21	A	I said I think I did, but I don't know exactly
22	Q	When did you get a stack of emails?	22		what I put in.
23	A	Some some time ago. I printed out a stack	23	Q	And you wouldn't know until you or somebody
24		of my emails.	24	-	reviewed them as to whether there are facts in
25	Q	A week, a month, two months?	25		those emails?
		D 115			110
1	A	Page 115 I don't recall when it was.	1	A	Page 117 That's true.
2	Q	And did you review them in the context of this	2	Q	Okay. And would it would there be some
3	-	case?	3	-	reason why you wouldn't convey to
4	Α	I did not review them, I just printed them.	4		Mr. Placitella facts in those emails?
5	Q	Why did you print them?	5		MR. ROTH: Objection.
6	A	In case I was going to have to turn them over.	6	A	Yeah, if it didn't come up. If there wasn't a
7	Q	You weren't curious as to what were on the	7		need at the time.
8		emails?	8	Q	Well, in this four-inch stack of dozens and
9	A	It's a lot of emails. I didn't have the time.	9		dozens of emails, can you think of any reason
10		I'm not going to review them if I don't have	10		why you wouldn't convey to him a fact that
11		to.	11		would be relevant to the case?
1 TT		What do 1-600	12	A	If it didn't come up, I didn't put it in an
12	Q	What do you mean "a lot"?	12		
	Q A	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's	13		email.
12				Q	
12 13		It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's	13		email.
12 13 14		It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of	13 14		email. Well, what type of communications would you
12 13 14 15	A	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails.	13 14 15		email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't
12 13 14 15 16	A Q	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues?	13 14 15 16		email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying
12 13 14 15 16 17	A Q A	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues? Yes.	13 14 15 16 17	Q	email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying action?
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	A Q A	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues? Yes. And those emails, again, contain information	13 14 15 16 17 18	Q	email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying action? Well, first of all, I've had communications
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	A Q A	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues? Yes. And those emails, again, contain information that your clients don't have	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q	email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying action? Well, first of all, I've had communications with Mr. Placitella and people of his from
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q A Q	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues? Yes. And those emails, again, contain information that your clients don't have MR. ROTH: Objection.	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q	email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying action? Well, first of all, I've had communications with Mr. Placitella and people of his from his firm on things unrelated to this case.
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q A Q	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues? Yes. And those emails, again, contain information that your clients don't have MR. ROTH: Objection. correct, the five	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q	email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying action? Well, first of all, I've had communications with Mr. Placitella and people of his from his firm on things unrelated to this case. I've had conversations in email communications
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q A Q	It's, you know, dozens of emails. I mean it's probably a four-inch, five-inch stack of emails. To and from Mr. Placitella and his colleagues? Yes. And those emails, again, contain information that your clients don't have MR. ROTH: Objection. correct, the five MR. ROTH: Form and	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q	email. Well, what type of communications would you have with Mr. Placitella if you weren't conveying to him facts regarding the underlying action? Well, first of all, I've had communications with Mr. Placitella and people of his from his firm on things unrelated to this case. I've had conversations in email communications with them with respect to the Ross case. That

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	THOMAS W. BEVAN,	ESQ.	- 05/15/2018 Pages 190193
1	Page 190	1	Page 192
1 2	suggestion. MR. ASSAF: No.	1 2	MR. ASSAF: All right.
3	MR. ASSAF: No. MR. McDERMOTT: You ask such	3	(Mrs. Porron new progent)
		4	(Mr. Bevan now present.)
4 5	vague questions. MR. ASSAF: You have form	5	BY MR. ASSAF:
	or foundation.		
6 7		6 7	
	MR. McDERMOTT: All right.		testimony during the prior breaks?
8	MR. ASSAF: Let's get the	8	A No.
	judge on again. We have form and foundation.	9	Q In terms of
10	That's it. You want MR. ROTH: Okay. Well,	10	MR. ROTH: There was only one break.
11	,		
12	now we're off the record, why don't	12	Q In terms of yeah, the prior break.
13	MR. ASSAF: No, let's go on	13	In terms of your settlement of asbestos
14	the record.	14	talc cases, how long have you been doing that?
15	MR. ROTH: We're now out	15	A I think the first time I did a settlement with
16	of the hearing of the witness.	16	any talc defendant was in 1997 and I think the
17	Mr. McDermott, can you explain to	17	last time was probably in I want to say 2011
18 19	Mr. Assaf what your issue is, and maybe MR. McDERMOTT: My issue	18 1 9	maybe. Q Could you tell me roughly how many talc cases
20	MR. McDERMOTT: My issue is that	20	you've settled? Round numbers.
		21	MR. ROTH: Objection to
21 22	MR. ROTH: you can	22	form. Form and foundation.
	clarify the question.		
23	MR. McDERMOTT: My issue is	23 24	A Boy, I'm not sure. 1 to 2,000.
	this, is that it depends upon the disease to	25	Q And could you tell me how many on behalf of
25	answer that question. Your question wasn't	25	how many plaintiffs you've settled asbestos
1	Page 191		Page 193
1	clear. For me to interpose a correct	1	cases apart from talc?
2	objection, just tell me what disease you're	2	A How many individual plaintiffs I have settled
3	talking about, that's all. That's all I MR. ASSAF: Then make a	3 4	asbestos cases for. Probably I'm going to
4 5	MR. ASSAF: Then make a form or foundation objection.	5	estimate 20 to 30,000.
6	· ·	6	Q All right. Do you think you have a good
7	MR. McDERMOTT: But you can't clear it up by form and foundation	7	understanding of strengths and weaknesses of matters when you're recommending settlements to
8		8	your clients?
9	MR. ASSAF: You're not litigating the case	9	
10		10	A When I have all of the evidence. O Let's take a break. Lunch.
11	MR. McDERMOTT: Mr. Assaf, because you've been asking vague and	11	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record.
12	hypothetical questions all day.	12	The time is 12:49.
			THE LINE IS 12.47.
13 14	MR. ASSAF: It's not. He's one of the most experienced plaintiffs asbestos	13 14	(Recess taken.)
15	lawyers in the country. I think he understands	15	(Necess caneii.)
16	my question.	16	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on
17	my question. MR. McDERMOTT: I think I take	17	the record. The time is 1:29.
18	issue with that.	18	BY MR. ASSAF:
19	MR. ASSAF: All right.	19	Q Do you think that BASF spoliated documents?
20	Let's bring him back in. Form or well,	20	A My understanding is that they did.
21	let's not.	20	
22	Anything except form or foundation, let's	22	Q What's your understanding from? A My understanding is that Eastern Magnesia
23		23	tested their talc in the 1970s, found that it
43	get the judge on the line		
24	get the judge on the line.		
24	get the judge on the line. MR. McDERMOTT: Just continue	24	contained asbestos, and destroyed any document

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		THOMAS W. BEVAN,	FOQ.		
1	Q	Page 194 What's your understanding from? What source?	1		Page 196 better position to do that than I would.
2	~ A	From what I've heard from Mr. Placitella and	2	Q	Well, you know the facts better than he does,
3		what I've read in the complaint. I'm not sure	3	-	in terms of the underlying cases, true?
4		if I've seen any documents to that extent, but	4	Α	Yes.
5		that's what I've been told.	5	Q	And you're barred in Ohio? You're a member of
6	Q	Did Mr. Placitella talk to you about any state	6	-	the Bar?
7	-	court proceedings regarding spoliation or	7	Α	Yeah, I'm a member of the Bar in Ohio.
8		crime-fraud?	8	Q	And you can associate with Mr. Placitella to
9		MR. ROTH: Objection.	9	-	bring a case here, correct?
10		Form.	10	A	Yeah. Yeah, sure.
11		Hold on for a second.	11	Q	Is there any impediment to doing so?
12		That's a yes or no.	12	A	I don't know. I haven't researched it to
13	Α	I don't recall what's in state court, what's in	13		determine if there's any impediment, but we
14		federal court.	14		chose to pursue it the way it's being pursued.
15	Q	Did he tell you about any spoliation or	15	Q	Do you view yourself as kind of co-counsel in
16	~	crime-fraud hearings, period?	16	~	Williams?
17	Α	I assume there was one in this case, because I	17	Α	If I guess it depends if for instance,
18		thought that was one of the issues that was up	18	-	take the Darnell case and if the Darnell case,
19		at the circuit court, but I don't recall.	19		if we're set back to square one and Darnell's
20	Q	Has he talked to you about any withdrawn.	20		able to pursue the her claim against Eastern
21	~	Regarding the spoliation allegations,	21		Magnesia Talc with all of the relevant
22		what do you understand the facts alleged are?	22		evidence, than I would assume that I would be
23	Α	My understanding of the facts was what I just	23		co-counsel because I know a tremendous amount
24		said and that sometime in the 1980s, they	24		of the Darnell case.
25		gathered up the documents and destroyed them.	25		I wouldn't be able to do it by myself, I
1	Q	Page 195 And when did Mr. Placitella convey that to you	1		Page 197 would need the assistance of the Placitella
2	~	in words or in substance?	2		firm because they know more about BASF and what
3		MR. ROTH: Objection to	3		BASF knew, when they knew it, what they did
4		form and foundation.	4		with the evidence, those things.
5	Α	It would have been 2010 or '11. I believe it	5	Q	Do you view yourself as having a co-counsel
6		was in the complaint as well.	6	-	relationship with Mr. Placitella?
7	Q	Other than that, have you had any conversations	7	Α	Certainly in the Ross case and certainly
8	-	with Mr. Placitella regarding spoliation	8		yeah, if we get to that point that I described,
9		allegation?	9		then yes.
10		MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.	10	0	At trial, would you be co-counsel?
11	Α	No.	11	~	MR. ROTH: Trial of what
12	Q	Have you initiated any efforts in Ohio to	12		case?
13	~	reopen any cases?	13	Α	It depends on what issue's being tried.
14	A	No.	14	Q	The Williams case.
15	Q	Why not?	15	æ A	It depends on what issue's being tried in the
16	æ A	Because that's being handled by the Placitella	16		Williams case.
17		firm as part of the class action.	17	Q	Well, what issue can you imagine you would be
18	Q	Could you? Withdrawn.	18	~	co-counsel?
19	~	Do you have the capability and experience	19		MR. ROTH: Objection to
20		and resources to try to reopen individual cases	20		form and foundation.
21		here?	21	A	If, again, the Williams case was set back to
22	Α	I certainly have the resources. You know, as	22		square one and we were permitted to try our
23		far as the ability and experience, I think	23		case, I'm familiar with the medical and the
24		Mr. Placitella knows things that I don't know,	24		facts of the case. I would assume that I would
25		and so I would think that he would be in a	25		have a role in that as co-counsel.

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		IHOMAS W. BEVAN,	поÕ.	_	05/15/2016 Pages 416421
1	0	Page 418 Let me show you and again this may have been	1		Page 420 MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
2	×	marked too and I apologize. It's Exhibit 131.	2		MR. ROTH: Move to strike.
3	А	I don't think this one was.	3	Q	Well, is that not true?
4	0	And this is a letter to you from Scott Martin	4	æ A	I think
5	×	dated July 24, 1996?	5	11	MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
6	А	Yes.	6	A	And I'm not sure what you mean by that.
7	0	In the context of requesting the voluntary	7	Q	You'd like to see the plaintiffs win this case?
8	×	dismissal of the Strickland case, what is	8	æ A	The plaintiffs should win this case
9		Mr. Martin telling you about whether Emtal has	9	11	MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
10		asbestos in it?	10	А	yes. Absolutely.
11	А	He indicated there is no evidence whatsoever	11	0	In terms of showing product ID, one of the ways
12		that talc mined or milled by Emtal contained	12	Z.	you show it is from interrogatory responses
13		asbestos.	13		from the defendant, correct?
14	Q	I only mean to be a little bit glib, but do you	14	A	Yes.
15	×	need to be a scientist or do you need a	15	Q	Sales records from the defendants, correct?
16		scientist or did you need an expert in 1996 to	16	æ	Yes.
17		decipher what Mr. Martin meant when he wrote to	17	0	The sales or I'm sorry. The purchasing
18		you that there is no evidence whatsoever that	18	×	records from facilities, for example,
19		talc mined and milled by Emtal contained	19		BFGoodrich purchasing records, correct?
20		asbestos?	20	A	If they exist, yes.
21	А	It's clear what he meant.	21	0	And you also show it through your own client
22	0	I don't have any other questions. And I think	22	×	recollection by showing them pictures of
23	~	we're done.	23		various products to see if they could identify
24		MR. ASSAF: Whoa. Whoa.	24		it
25		Whoa. I have a couple.	25		MR. ROTH: Asked and
					120 1011
1		Page 419 MR. ROTH: You're at seven	1		Page 421 answered.
2		hours. What are you	2	^	correct?
3		MR. ASSAF: I don't think	3	Q A	Sometimes we show them pictures. Usually not.
4		SO.	4	0	And do you have any evidence withdrawn.
5		MR. ROTH: Well, what was	5	¥	Over the 15 years you were litigating
6		the time before we went to plaintiffs' side?	6		with Emtal over product ID for its talc, did
7		THE VIDEOGRAPHER: He was at 6:51.	7		you ever feel as though you weren't getting the
8			8		proper information from Emtal, in terms of
9	DV	REEXAMINATION OF THOMAS W. BEVAN, ESQ. MR. ASSAF:	9		their sales records?
10		Ready?	10		MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
11	Q A	Sure.	11	A	As I sit here today, I don't believe I did. I
12	A Q	Mr. Roth asked you a bunch of questions about	12	А	think they approached it that we had no
13	Q	how to prove product ID based on all of your	13		asbestos in our talc so we're not giving you
14		experience. Right?	14		anything.
		•		^	1 5
15 16	A	MR. ROTH: Objection. He asked me a couple questions, sure.	15 16	Q	Okay. So prior to talking to Mr. Placitella in 2010, did you have any reason to believe that
17	A Q	By the way, you never had any problems	17		you weren't getting the sales information from
18	Ž	answering Mr. Roth's questions, did you?	18		Emtal that you were seeking?
19			19	7\	•
	7\	MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.	20	A	Prior to
20	A	His questions were much more direct and simpler			MR. ROTH: Objection.
21		than your questions.	21	7	MR. McDERMOTT: Objection.
22		MR. ROTH: Thank you very	22	A	Prior to the conversation with Mr. Placitella,
23	73	much.	23		I had no reason to believe that Eastern
24	A	They were better questions.	24	^	Magnesia wasn't being forthright.
25	Q	You would like to see Mr. Roth win, correct?	25	Q	And you got all the sales information you